

(19) World Intellectual Property Organization  
International Bureau(43) International Publication Date  
25 October 2001 (25.10.2001)

PCT

(10) International Publication Number  
WO 01/80536 A1(51) International Patent Classification<sup>7</sup>: H04M 1/723

Grisslehamn (SE). DREVIN, Anders [SE/SE]; Funbo Lövsta, S-755 97 Uppsala (SE). DREVIN, Håkan [SE/SE]; Västerboda 2014, S-760 45 Grisslehamn (SE).

(21) International Application Number: PCT/SE01/00815

(74) Agents: HINZ, Udo et al.; Stockholms Patentbyrå Zacco AB, Box 23101, S-104 35 Stockholm (SE).

(22) International Filing Date: 11 April 2001 (11.04.2001)

(25) Filing Language: English

(26) Publication Language: English

(30) Priority Data:  
0001375-5 13 April 2000 (13.04.2000) SE

(81) Designated States (national): AE, AG, AL, AM, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BY, BZ, CA, CH, CN, CO, CR, CU, CZ, DE, DK, DM, DZ, EE, ES, FI, GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KE, KG, KP, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MA, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, MZ, NO, NZ, PL, PT, RO, RU, SD, SE, SG, SI, SK, SL, TJ, TM, TR, TT, TZ, UA, UG, US, UZ, VN, YU, ZA, ZW.

(71) Applicant (for all designated States except US): SKAB-BÖREN AB [SE/SE]; Västerboda 2014, S-760 45 Grisslehamn (SE).

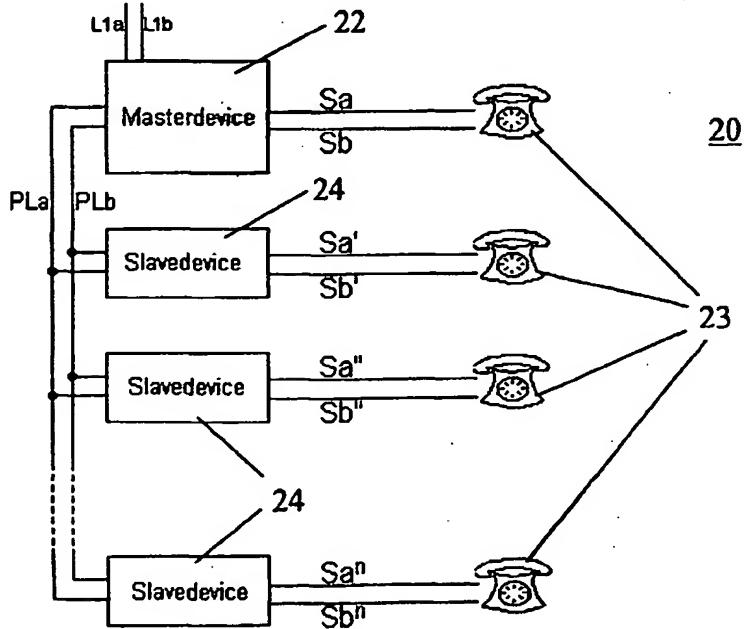
(84) Designated States (regional): ARIPO patent (GH, GM, KE, LS, MW, MZ, SD, SL, SZ, TZ, UG, ZW), Eurasian patent (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European patent (AT, BE, CH, CY, DE, DK, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PT, SE, TR), OAPI patent (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).

(72) Inventors; and

(75) Inventors/Applicants (for US only): GRANDIN-DREVIN, Agueta [SE/SE]; Västerboda 2014, S-760 45

[Continued on next page]

(54) Title: TELEPHONE PLUG SYSTEM



WO 01/80536 A1

(57) Abstract: The invention concerns a telephone plug system with a jack body having one end adapted to be inserted into standard wall telephone jacks, having at least one receiving socket at another end adapted to receive a conventional plug which is attached to a telephone line operated device. One plug is selected as host plug and at least one as slave plug, whereby the host plug controls a slave plug regarding receiving calls such as speech, facsimile, data etc.



**Published:**

— *with international search report*

*For two-letter codes and other abbreviations, refer to the "Guidance Notes on Codes and Abbreviations" appearing at the beginning of each regular issue of the PCT Gazette.*

**Title**

Telephone plug system

**Technical field**

The present invention pertains to a telephone plug system for a two wire telephone line and a telephone plug with a jack body having one end adapted to be inserted into standard wall telephone jacks, having at least one receiving socket at another end adapted to receive a conventional plug which is attached to a telephone line operated device.

**Background art**

There are problems related to having multiple telephone jacks connected to each other in series (cascaded) or parallel for residential subscribers and the like. An incoming telephone line is connected to a first main jack with a chain of slave jacks connected to it. In some cases all jacks have telephones connected to them. Hence, an incoming call will make all the telephones ring. A person in another room than a receiving off-hook telephone could listen to a conversation without the knowledge of a person who receives the call, which is a kind of eavesdropping.

A more up to date problem concerns that jacks do not only have telephones connected. Other connected devices could be facsimile (fax) machines, modems or the like. When there are multiple connected jacks with all kinds of machines connected such as a fax, it is inconvenient if a person hears a ring signal intended for the fax and believes that it is a phone call and answers the call.

If a telephone is used with out knowledge of an ongoing fax call on the line it could disturb or brake the fax transmission depending on how jacks are coupled in a chain and where the off-hook telephone and/or fax is situated in a chain of connected telephone jacks.

In a plurality of countries the jacks for residential subscribers are connected so that every jack is provided with a unique priority. By priority is understood that the jack having the highest priority will break all communication to other telephone devices when off-hooked. A telephone that has the next highest priority will break the connection with all devices having a lower priority then the next highest etc.

To be able to speak in a telephone only two wires (one telephone line) are needed. To every jack in a resident there are two incoming wires to a jack and two outgoing wires. In the jack having the highest priority, the incoming wires are connected to the PSTN (Public Switched Telephone Network) and the outgoing wires to a telephone with the next highest priority and so forth. This creates a chain where every telephone is able to break the chain at off-hook state, thus disconnecting telephone sets with a lower priority.

When no telephone is plugged-in to a jack, the incoming wires and outgoing wires are connected to each other. A plug-in of a telephone will break the chain, whereby the telephone will control break and contact in the chain. Conventionally when a telephone is on-hook a signal will pass through it. When the handset is lifted to an off-hook state the connection between incoming wires and outgoing is interrupted. Hence, disconnecting every 5 telephone with a lower priority.

Today jacks have four connecting terminals and one terminal for an interrupting function. Two of the terminals are used to connect to a telephone. The other two are used to connect to the next telephone in the chain. As mentioned, when no telephone set plug is 10 inserted in a jack, the four terminals are short-circuited. The terminals are divided by the plastic center plug in the connector plug for the telephone when inserted.

If multiple telephonic devices are plugged-in to the same jack, a plug with a body is used which one end is adapted to be inserted into a standard wall telephone jack, and having at least one receiving socket at another end, adapted to receive a conventional plug which is 15 attached to a telephone line operated device.

In some connections, fax machines or modems do only work proper if they are connected to the incoming telephone line jack.

When an analogue telephone system is made digital, for example, ISDN, there are still analogue outputs connected that can be used to connect old analogue equipment such as 20 fax, telephone set, modem etc. The present invention provides a smooth change from a analogue telephone system to a digital one.

The US Patent 5,231,658 by Eftechiou discloses a telephone privacy device with a plug-in body for a multiple jack telephone line. Privacy is accomplished through off-hook detection and there is no signaling or control between plug-in bodies via the telephone line.

25 PCT application WO 92/15 167 discloses a telephone adapter for telephone sets which accomplishes privacy through off-hook detection, and uses a kind of audio signaling.

Patent application document EP-A2-0348 956 describes how privacy is reached by off-hook, lifted line handset, detection.

An off-hook detection for privacy is also disclosed through PCT application WO 30 95/18502.

The US patent 5,920,615 uses four wires in order to function correctly. As every wire of those four conveys a specific function, all connected jacks have to be correctly connected to the wires. The most common connection between jacks is with two wires where polarity is not guaranteed. The invention in accordance with US patent 5,920,615 "erases" polarity

shifting through the use of a rectifier bridge in its main unit. Polarity shifting is used in most countries for determining the status of a call, for example, equipment like call answering machines, facsimiles, modems etc. use polarity shifting to determine the status of a call.

At a call up on a two wire telephone line, the line changes polarity at the called party, 5 when the called party answers the call. At termination of a call where the called party terminates the call, the line again changes polarity at the calling party no matter if the called party is off hook or on hook.

This means that the invention according to US patent 5,920,615 only can utilize Call-ID (Calling Party ID) and not polarity shifting for call status evaluation. If there is no Call-ID, 10 a call is directed to a predetermined slave station, i.e., not selecting a slave station in accordance with the nature of the call, for example, fax or speech. Hence the invention in accordance with US patent 5,920,615 can not be used in countries/households where Call-ID is not available.

Another invention in accordance with US patent 3,949,172 discloses telephone 15 communication over the power net, and consequently no telephone wiring has to be installed. The invention is comprised in specially designed telephone devices, which only can be connected to the power line. One telephone unit is connected both to the telephone jack and to a power line jack. It discloses a FM modulation between 100-200 kHz transmitted to the power line via a transformer. The idea is to comprise this in a telephone set, i.e., telephones 20 have to be of a specific design, thus the invention does not benefit from ordinary telephone sets already present in households.

The unit used in US patent 3,949,172 can not be used to guide calls to different telephone sets on the basis of Call-ID or nature of the call, for example, fax or speech.

#### **Summary of the disclosed invention**

25 The present invention relates to a telephone plug-in system for privacy when calling, and for directing incoming fax and other telephone calls to the jack to which a device is connected, by signaling over existing or provided telephone wires not using off-hook detection.

Background art discloses off-hook detection for privacy when calling. It does not 30 solve all the problems related to multiple jacks on a telephone line according to the above, especially not for devices other than telephone sets.

Further, the present invention is intended for provided two wire telephone lines, i.e., not for four wire lines. Also, one principle used by the present invention is to monitor the type of telephone call, for example, fax, speech, data, dialed DTMF tones. Monitoring is defined through

that a host plug answers a call and listens for fax- and data-calls or DTMF tones. If no one of this calls is present it is assumed that the call is a speech call. This makes the present invention suitable to direct calls in a flexible manner through the options fax, speech, data, dialed DTMF tones or Call-ID.

5 To solve problems and to achieve aspects of the present invention it sets forth a telephone plug system for a provided two wire telephone line with a jack body having one end adapted to be inserted into at least one standard wall telephone jack, having at least one receiving socket at another end adapted to receive a conventional telephone plug which is attached to a telephone line operated device. It comprises:

10 one of said plugs being a host plug and at least one being a slave plug both containing electronics for signaling each other via a provided or existing two wire telephone line connection between multiple jack connections;

    said host plug being connected to at least one incoming telephone line;

15 said host plug and each slave plug having different data addresses for addressing each other during signaling;

    said host plug receiving all incoming calls through said at least one incoming telephone line, determining the nature of a call and a device intended for receiving said call, and keeping the call intended for a device connected to it, or distributing the call to a slave plug connected to the determined device, and controlling the function of a slave plug through  
20 said signaling; and

    said host plug controlling a ring signal connected to a call only to ring on plugs where determined devices are connected, and other plugs to put out a line occupation signal in an off-hook state through said addressing thus introducing privacy for all connected telephone operated devices and preventing listening to other calls from said slave plug and preventing  
25 ring signals on plugs with connected devices not intended for an incoming call.

In one embodiment of the present invention, the ring signal is distributed to all plugs after a predetermined number of signals at chosen plugs for an incoming call.

In another embodiment a telephone receiving a call distributed to one of said plugs is used to DTMF signaling to the host plug in order to open the line for other slave plugs or to  
30 make a system internal call.

One embodiment comprises that said nature of a call is determined by said host plug through a tone listening or a comprised Call-ID function.

A further embodiment comprises that a slave plug that has demanded the line enters a watch state, whereby a tone for a non occupied telephone line is distributed to a buzzer comprised in said plug when a call is ended.

5 A still further embodiment comprises that a telephone device for DTMF signaling connected to one of said plugs is used to program a plug through its key pad using said signaling.

Further, the present invention sets forth a telephone line plug for a provided two wire telephone line, which function is controlled via signaling over a provided telephone line using a single incoming line, with a jack body having one end adapted to be inserted into standard 10 wall telephone jacks, having at least one receiving socket at another end adapted to receive a conventional plug which is attached to a telephone line operated device. It is comprising:

a first central processor unit for controlling signaling and the comprised means in said plug;

15 a switch state determining means for isolating an incoming telephone line from an outgoing in said plug;

a line sensor means, determining if the telephone line is requested by a device connected to the outgoing telephone line;

a communication channel means between a host plug and a slave plug;

20 a tone generator means for generating tones connected to the outgoing telephone line;

a buzzer used for signaling;

a identification means providing a plug its identity in a plug system;

a power status controlling means; and

thus making up a slave plug for a single incoming telephone line in a plug system controlled 25 via signaling over a provided telephone line.

In one embodiment it is making up a separate unit or a block comprised in a host plug, said host plug comprising:

a second central processor unit for controlling signaling and the comprised means in said plug;

30 a type of call determining means;

a calling number determining means;

a line sensor means differing between an idle state and an active state of the telephone line, and detecting a ring signal;

a line holding means providing the second processor unit to put the telephone line into an idle state or an active state;

a first tone generating means used to generate tones to be transmitted to a calling party;

5 a switch state determining means used to isolate an incoming line from an outgoing line;

a second tone generating means used to generate tones internally in said telephone line system;

10 a line sensor means, determining if a connected telephone device is using said telephone line;

a communication means making up a communication channel to said slave plug;

a power supply, which provides voltage internally in said telephone line system when said switch state has disengaged the incoming telephone so that said line to said connected telephone device still resembles a conventional telephone line;

15 a ring signal generating means used to generate ring signals in said telephone line system; and

a DTMF decoder, which decodes DTMF tones transmitted from telephone devices connected in the system.

A further embodiment comprises that said calling number determining means are  
20 Call-ID or calling party identification means.

A still further embodiment of the present invention comprises that Call-ID or calling party identification and the CPU uses Call-ID or calling party identification control to handle any type of Call-ID or calling party identification, such as Frequency Shift Keying and Dual Tone Modulated Frequency.

25 The present invention further sets forth a telephone line plug for a provided two wire telephone line, which function is controlled via signaling over a provided telephone line using at least two incoming telephone lines, with a jack body having one end adapted to be inserted into standard wall telephone jacks, having at least one receiving socket at another end adapted to receive a conventional plug which is attached to a telephone line operated device. It is  
30 comprising:

a first central processor unit for controlling signaling and the comprised means in said plug;

a first modulator/demodulator means modulating every signal with a chosen frequency for a line in question, whereby said first central processor determines which carrier wave it has to use;

a line sensor means differing between an idle state and an active state of the telephone line, and detecting a ring signal;

a communication channel means making up a communication channel to said slave plug;

a tone generator means for generating tones connected to the outgoing telephone line;

10 a first buzzer used for signaling;

an identification means providing a plug its identity in a plug system;

a power status controlling means;

a ring signal generating means to said line with a connected telephone device in an idle state;

15 a DTMF decoder means, which decodes DTMF tones transmitted from telephone devices connected in the system;

a power supply means generating the voltage corresponding to a conventional telephone line voltage; and

thus making up a slave plug for multiple incoming telephone lines in a plug system controlled  
20 via signaling over a provided telephone line.

In another embodiment the plug is making up a separate unit or a block comprised in a host plug for at least two incoming telephone lines, said host plug comprising:

at least two second central processor units for controlling signaling and the comprised means in said plugs;

25 at least two line sensor means differing between an idle state and an active state of the telephone line, and detecting a ring signal;

at least two line holding means providing a second processor unit to put a telephone line into an idle state or an active state;

30 at least two second tone generating means used to generate tones to be transmitted to a calling party;

at least two communication channel means making up a communication channel to said slave plug;

a power supply for all connected slave plugs;

5 at least two second modulator/demodulator means modulating every signal with a chosen frequency for a line in question, whereby said first central processor determines which carrier wave it has to use;

a system bus for communication and control between said second central processor units;

at least two determining means for type of call; and

10 at least two calling number determining means.

Another embodiment of the present invention comprises that said calling number determining means are Call-ID or calling party identification means.

A further embodiment comprises that Call-ID or calling party identification and the CPU uses Call-ID or calling party identification control to handle any type of Call-ID or calling party 15 identification, such as Frequency Shift Keying and Dual Tone Modulated Frequency.

The telephone line plugs described above are also used in the embodiments of the above described system in accordance with the attached set of system sub-claims.

#### **Brief description of the drawings**

Henceforth reference is had to the accompanying drawings for a better understanding 20 of the examples and embodiments described, wherein:

**Fig. 1** schematically illustrates a telephone line plug-in device according to one embodiment of the present invention;

**Fig. 2** schematically illustrates a one line plug-in system according to the present invention;

25 **Fig. 3** schematically illustrates a host plug according to the present invention;

**Fig. 4** schematically illustrates a slave plug according to the present invention;

**Fig. 5** schematically illustrates a multiple line plug-in system according to the present invention;

30 **Fig. 6** schematically illustrates a multiple line host plug according to the present invention; and

**Fig. 7** schematically illustrates a multiple line slave plug according to the present invention.

#### **Detailed description of preferred embodiments**

One aim with the plugs according to the present invention is to improve and replace a priority chain as described in the prior art. Important advantages following the plug according to the invention are set out below:

- No disconnected modem calls.

5     • Privacy during a telephone call.

- No fuzz with today plug-in devices and faulty connected telephone sets which can disconnect every connected set in a chain.
- Enhanced functionality

Such as:

10    • Exchange functionality, due to plugs with different identities, controlling and distributing a call to selected plugs. A calling party is able to connect to a preferred plug in a system according to the present invention by the use of a telephone equipment's DTMF tone dialing. It is also possible to block programmed outgoing numbers and incoming numbers.

• Line-sharing by controlling fax, data, speech to different plugs.

15    • Call-ID or calling party identification control.

A system according to the present invention is received with, for example, one host plug and two or more slave plugs. It is easy to plug-in the plugs with the host plug in a first jack for the incoming telephone line and slave plugs to other jacks.

20    If a residential telephone is connected in parallel, the jack in which the host plug is to be connected has to be rearranged with regard to the line connection.

Although the present invention is described with a jack according to Fig. 1, it also works for other types of jacks such as TP-jacks.

25    As mentioned above, the present invention is intended for provided two wire telephone lines, i.e., not for four wire lines. Also, one principle used by the present invention is to monitor the type of telephone call, for example, fax, speech, data, dialed DTMF tones. Monitoring is defined through that a host plug answers a call and listens for fax- and data-calls or DTMF tones. If no one of this calls is present it is assumed that the call is a speech call. This makes the present

invention suitable to direct calls in a flexible manner through the options fax, speech, data, dialed DTMF tones or Call-ID.

Fig. 1 schematically illustrates a telephone line plug-in device 10, according to one embodiment of the present invention, in a front view and a side elevation view in two possible versions above and below.

The above version in Fig. 1 depicts a telephone plug 10 with a jack body 12 having one end An1 adapted to be inserted into standard wall telephone jacks, having a receiving socket 14 at another end An2 adapted to receive a conventional plug which is attached to a telephone line operated device for fax, data, speech. A below version of a jack body 12 depicts the same features as the above version except for an additional receiving socket An3, denoted 16, and being a TP-jack receiving socket. The receiving socket An1 could also be adapted with a telephone line cord comprising a plug to be inserted in a standard wall jack.

In Fig. 2 is schematically illustrated a one line plug-in system 20 according to the present invention with a host plug 22 (master plug) connected to the incoming two telephone wires L1a and L1b, respectively. A telephone set 23 is connected to its receiving socket 14 via wires Sa and Sb, Sa' and Sb' etc. Multiple slave plugs 24 or devices are connected to the host plug 22 through outgoing telephone wires Pla and Plb, respectively.

Fig. 3 schematically illustrates a host plug according to the present invention. The block diagram in Fig. 3 describes a principal design of a host plug 30. Arrows in the diagram depict the direction of communication between the CPU, Central Processor Unit. As the CPU is controlling the plug 10, here a host plug, communication or co-operation between blocks in the block diagram is accomplished through the CPU. The block diagram comprises the following blocks:

- ST Type of call. Via ST the CPU differs among the type of calls speech, data and fax.
- NP Call-ID or calling party identification. NP receives Call-ID or calling party identification and the CPU uses NP for Call-ID or calling party identification control. NP is designed to handle any type of Call-ID or calling party identification, such as FSK (Frequency Shift Keying and DTMF (Dual Tone Modulated Frequency)).
- LS' Line sensor. LS' differs between an idle state and an active state of the telephone line. It is also able to detect a ring signal.

- LH Line Holding (seizing). Via LH, the CPU is able to put the line into an idle state or an active state.
- TG' Tone generator. TG' is used to generate all kinds of tones to be transmitted to a calling party such as occupied line tone, connecting tone etc. The CPU controls the type of tone, for example frequency.
- 5 • RE Switch (relay). RE is used to divide wires L1a/L1b and PLa/PLb.
- SP Slave plug.
- TG Tone generator used to generate tones such as busy tone, dial tone etc for tones transmitted, internally, in the system of the present invention. The CPU determines the frequency etc. of the tones.
- 10 • LS Line sensor, determining if a telephone device connected to the PLa/PLb line is using the telephone line.
- KO Communication. Makes up a communication channel between a host plug and a slave plug.
- 15 • SF Power supply, which provides voltage on the PLa/PLb line when RE has disengaged L1a/L1b so that PLa/PLb still resembles a conventional telephone line.
- RI Ring signal generator, generating ring signals to the line PLa/PLb. Note! RI generates ring signals to line PLa/PLb in an idle state in contradiction to RI', which generates ring signals when line L1a/L1b is in an active state. The CPU determines the frequency etc. of the ring signal.
- 20 • DT DTMF decoder, which decodes the DTMF tones transmitted from telephone devices connected in the system (internal). This is used, for example, to conduct internal telephone calls (in-house).

Fig. 4 schematically illustrates a slave plug according to the present invention through a block diagram 40. The block diagram in Fig. 4 depicts a general principal design of a slave plug according to the present invention. Arrows depict the direction of communication between CPU and comprised blocks. Co-operation between the blocks is controlled via the CPU.

The block diagram 30 comprises the following blocks:

- RE Switch (relay) used by the CPU to connect or disconnect the, via Sa/Sb connected, devices from wires PLa/PLb.

- LS Line sensor, which senses the line status, i.e., ongoing call or not. Also the CPU can 5 tamper ring signals via LS.

- AS Line sensor, used by the CPU to determine if a device connected to said plug is using the outgoing line.

- KO The same function as KO for the host plug.

- TG The same function as TG for the host plug.

- SU Buzzer, used for signaling features.

- ID Identification, which provides an identity in the system for a slave plug. The identity is used by call directing. ID = 0 could mean fax, ID = 1 could mean data. Further ID:s can be provided as needed.

- SF Power supply, which the CPU can use to determine the status of the power supply. If 15 the slave plug is battery charged it can be determined if the battery status is OK or not.

Fig. 5 schematically illustrates a multiple line L1 to L5 plug-in system according to the present invention. It resembles the block diagram in Fig. 2 except for the multiple wires L1-L5 connected to the host plug 50.

Fig. 6 schematically illustrates a multiple line host plug according to the present 20 invention. The block diagram describes the principal design of a multiple host plug 50. Depicted arrows show in which direction CPU1 to CPU5 communicate with comprised function blocks. Each CPU controls one incoming line

In this embodiment of the present invention five modulator/demodulator MD(F<sub>1</sub>) to 25 MD(F<sub>5</sub>) demodulate the different wires incoming signals with different frequencies in order to make a simultaneous communication possible on every incoming line, five wires in this embodiment, L1a/L1b – L5a/L5b, on the internal line SLa/SLb.

The block diagram of the multiple line host plug comprises the following blocks. Blocks which are described in accordance with the one line host plug of Fig. 3 are not repeated.

- MD Modulator/Demodulator. Five telephone wires, L1a/L1b – L5a/L5b, are to share the line SLa/SLb to other slave plugs, and to be used simultaneously in a worst case with five incoming calls. Hence, every telephone line is modulated with predetermined frequencies F<sub>1</sub> to F<sub>5</sub>. A modulator MD modulates every signal with a chosen frequency (channel) for the line in question. Telephone line 1 is modulated with predetermined frequencies, one frequency for every direction, from and to the host plug 50, i.e., two frequencies F<sub>1</sub> for every telephone line, the telephone line 2 with two frequencies F<sub>2</sub>, etc.
- CPU Processor. As pointed out one, CPU1-CPU5, processor is used to control one telephone line.

10 • BU System bus, provided for internal communication between the different telephone line CPU:s.

- SF Power supply. In the multiple line version of the host plug, the slave plugs are power supplied by the host plug 50 via the line SLa/SLb.

15 Fig. 70 schematically illustrates a multiple line slave plug block diagram 60 according to the present invention, whereby arrows show in which direction the internal CPU communicates with comprised function blocks. Said block diagram comprises the following blocks. Blocks which are described in accordance with the one line slave plug of Fig. 4 are not repeated.

20 • MD Modulator/Demodulator. As for the multiple line host plug 50, the multiple line slave plug 60 has to handle that five telephone wires, L1a/L1b – L5a/L5b, are to share the line SLa/SLb to other slave plugs and the host plug 50, and to be used simultaneously. In a worst case with five incoming calls. Hence, every telephone line is modulated with a predetermined frequency F<sub>1</sub> to F<sub>5</sub>. A modulator MD modulates every signal with a chosen frequency (channel) for the line in question. Telephone line 1 is modulated with predetermined frequencies, one frequency for every direction, from and to the host plug 50, i.e., two frequencies F<sub>1</sub> for one telephone line, the telephone line 2 with two frequencies F<sub>2</sub>, etc. The CPU in the slave plug 60 determines which carrier wave, F<sub>1</sub> - F<sub>5</sub>, MD has to use..

25 • SF Power supply generates the voltage corresponding to a conventional telephone line voltage, 48 V in Sweden.

- RI Ring generator. RI supports the CPU to generate ring signals on the outgoing line Sa/Sb. The CPU determines, for example, the frequency of the ring signal.
- TG Tone generator used to generate tones such as busy tone, dial tone etc for tones transmitted, internally, in the system of the present invention. The CPU determines the frequency etc. of the tones.
- DT DTMF receiver. DT recognizes DTMF tones sent via Sa/Sb connected DTMF compatible telephone equipment, and is used to transmit control commands to a slave plug 60 and to program it.

Blocks set out above make up means provided through software and hardware or a combination of software and hardware known to a person skilled in the art, providing the unique features of the present invention.

Although the present invention has been described through preferred embodiments, its scope is not limited to those. The attached set of claims provides other possible embodiments of the invention for a person skilled in the art.

**Claims**

1. A telephone plug system for a provided two wire telephone line with a jack body having one end adapted to be inserted into at least one standard wall telephone jack, having at least one receiving socket at another end adapted to receive a conventional telephone plug which is attached to a telephone line operated device, **characterized by comprising:**

one of said plugs being a host plug and at least one being a slave plug both containing electronics for signaling each other via a provided telephone line connection between multiple jack connections;

10        said host plug being connected to at least one incoming telephone line;

      said host plug and each slave plug having different data addresses for addressing each other during signaling;

      said host plug receiving all incoming calls through said at least one incoming telephone line, determining the nature of a call and a device intended for receiving said call, and keeping the call intended for a device connected to it, or distributing the call to a slave plug connected to the determined device, and controlling the function of a slave plug through said signaling; and

20        said host plug controlling a ring signal connected to a call only to ring on plugs where determined devices are connected, and other plugs to put out a line occupation signal in an off-hook state through said addressing thus introducing privacy for all connected telephone operated devices and preventing listening to other calls from said slave plug and preventing ring signals on plugs with connected devices not intended for an incoming call.

25        2. A system according to claim 1, **characterized in that the ring signal is distributed to all plugs after a predetermined number of signals at chosen plugs for an incoming call.**

      3. A system according to claim 1, **characterized in that a telephone receiving a call distributed to one of said plugs is used to DTMF signaling to the host plug in order to open the line for other slave plugs or to make a system internal call.**

      4. A system according to claims 1-3, wherein said nature of a call is determined by said host plug through a tone listening or a comprised Call-ID function.

30        5. A system according to claims 1-4, **characterized in that a slave plug that has demanded the line enters a watch state, whereby a tone for a non occupied telephone line is distributed to a buzzer comprised in said plug when a call is ended.**

6. A system according to claims 1-5, characterized in that a slave plug that has demanded the line enters a watch state, whereby a tone for a non occupied telephone line is distributed to a buzzer comprised in said plug when a call is ended.

5 7. A system according to claims 1-6, characterized in that a telephone device for DTMF signaling connected to one of said plugs is used to program a plug through its key pad using said signaling.

8. A telephone line plug for a provided two wire telephone line, which function is controlled via signaling over a provided telephone line using a single incoming line, with a jack body having one end adapted to be inserted into standard wall telephone jacks, having at 10 least one receiving socket at another end adapted to receive a conventional telephone plug which is attached to a telephone line operated device, characterized by comprising:

a first central processor unit for controlling signaling and the comprised means in said plug;

15 a switch state determining means for isolating an incoming two wire telephone line from an outgoing in said plug;

a line sensor means, determining if the telephone line is requested by a device connected to the outgoing telephone line;

a communication channel means between a host plug and a slave plug;

20 a tone generator means for generating tones connected to the outgoing telephone line;

a buzzer used for signaling;

a identification means providing a plug its identity in a plug system;

a power status controlling means; and

thus making up a slave plug for a single incoming telephone line in a plug system controlled

25 via signaling over a provided telephone line.

9. A plug according to claim 8 making up a separate unit or a block comprised in a host plug, characterized by said host plug comprising:

a second central processor unit for controlling signaling and the comprised means in said plug;

30 a type of call determining means;

a calling number determining means;

a line sensor means differing between an idle state and an active state of the telephone line, and detecting a ring signal;

a line holding means providing the second processor unit to put the telephone line into an idle state or an active state;

a first tone generating means used to generate tones to be transmitted to a calling party;

5 a switch state determining means used to isolate an incoming line from an outgoing line;

a second tone generating means used to generate tones internally in said telephone line system;

10 a line sensor means, determining if a connected telephone device is using said telephone line;

a communication means making up a communication channel to said slave plug;

a power supply, which provides voltage internally in said telephone line system when said switch state has disengaged the incoming telephone so that said line to said connected telephone device still resembles a conventional telephone line;

15 a ring signal generating means used to generate ring signals in said telephone line system; and

a DTMF decoder, which decodes DTMF tones transmitted from telephone devices connected in the system.

10. A plug according to claim 9, characterized in that said calling number  
20 determining means are Call-ID or calling party identification means.

11. A plug according to claim 10, characterized in that Call-ID or calling party identification is used and the CPU uses Call-ID or calling party identification control to handle any type of Call-ID or calling party identification, such as Frequency Shift Keying and Dual Tone Modulated Frequency.

25 12. A telephone line plug for a provided two wire telephone line, which function is controlled via signaling over a telephone line, with a jack body having one end adapted to be inserted into standard wall telephone jacks, having at least one receiving socket at another end adapted to receive a conventional plug which is attached to a telephone line operated device, characterized by comprising:

a first central processor unit for controlling signaling and the comprised means in said plug;

5 a first modulator/demodulator means modulating every signal with a chosen frequency for a line in question, whereby said first central processor determines which carrier wave it has to use;

a line sensor means differing between an idle state and an active state of the telephone line, and detecting a ring signal;

a communication channel means making up a communication channel to said slave plug;

a tone generator means for generating tones connected to the outgoing telephone line;

10 a first buzzer used for signaling;

an identification means providing a plug its identity in a plug system;

a power status controlling means;

a ring signal generating means to said line with a connected telephone device in an idle state;

15 a DTMF decoder means, which decodes DTMF tones transmitted from telephone devices connected in the system;

a power supply means generating the voltage corresponding to a conventional telephone line voltage; and

thus making up a slave plug for multiple incoming telephone lines in a plug system controlled  
20 via signaling over a provided telephone line.

13. A plug according to claim 12 making up a separate unit or a block comprised in a host plug for at least two incoming telephone lines, characterized by said host plug comprising:

25 at least two second central processor units for controlling signaling and the comprised means in said plugs;

at least two line sensor means differing between an idle state and an active state of the telephone line, and detecting a ring signal;

at least two line holding means providing a second processor unit to put a telephone line into an idle state or an active state;

at least two second tone generating means used to generate tones to be transmitted to a calling party;

at least two communication channel means making up a communication channel to said slave plug;

5 a power supply for all connected slave plugs;

at least two second modulator/demodulator means modulating every signal with a chosen frequency for a line in question, whereby said first central processor determines which carrier wave it has to use;

10 a system bus for communication and control between said second central processor units;

at least two determining means for type of call; and

at least two calling number determining means.

14. A plug according to claim 13, characterized in that said calling number determining means are Call-ID or calling party identification means.

15 15. A plug according to claim 14, characterized by Call-ID or calling party identification is used, and the CPU uses Call-ID or calling party identification control to handle any type of Call-ID or calling party identification, such as Frequency Shift Keying and Dual Tone Modulated Frequency.

---

1/5

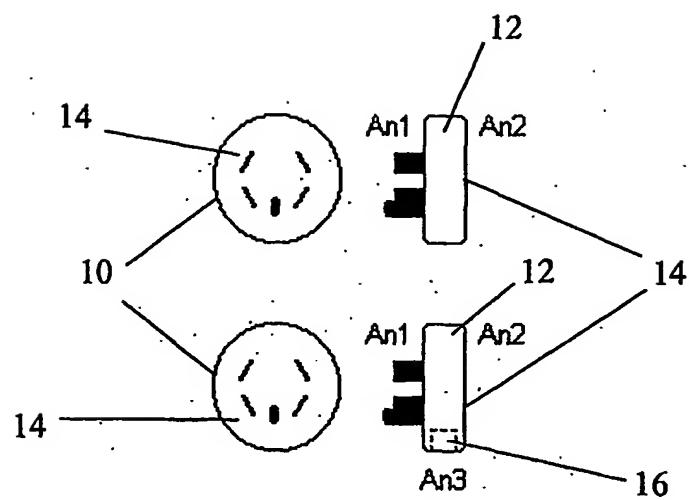


Fig. 1

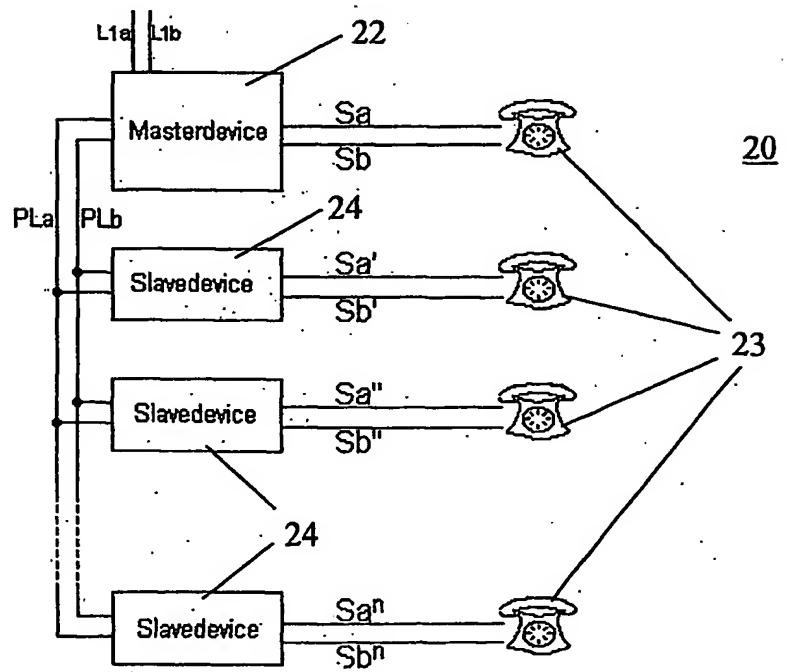


Fig. 2

2/5

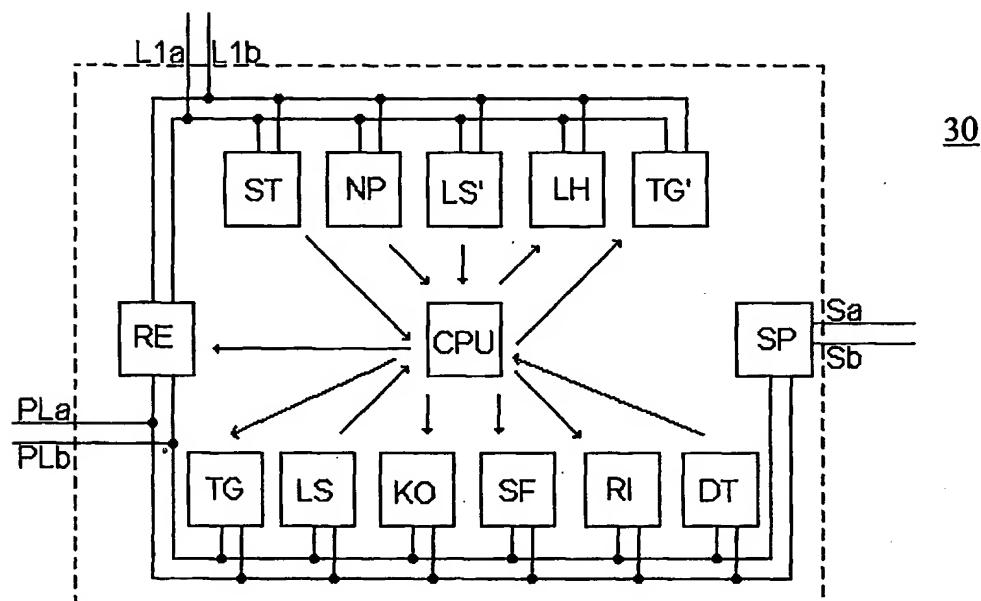


Fig. 3

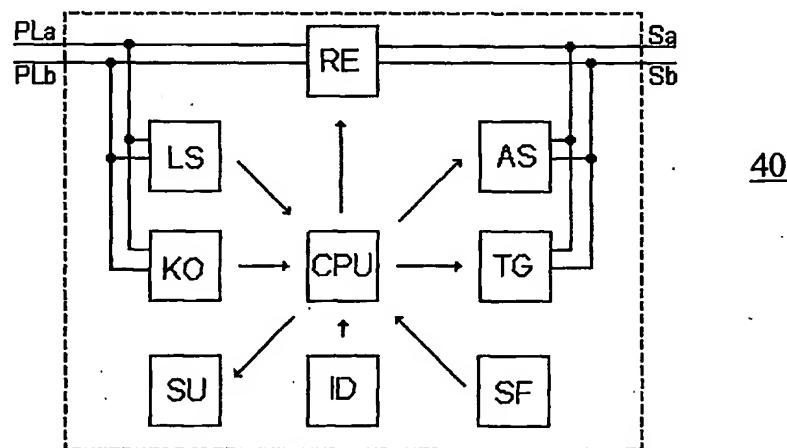


Fig. 4

3/5

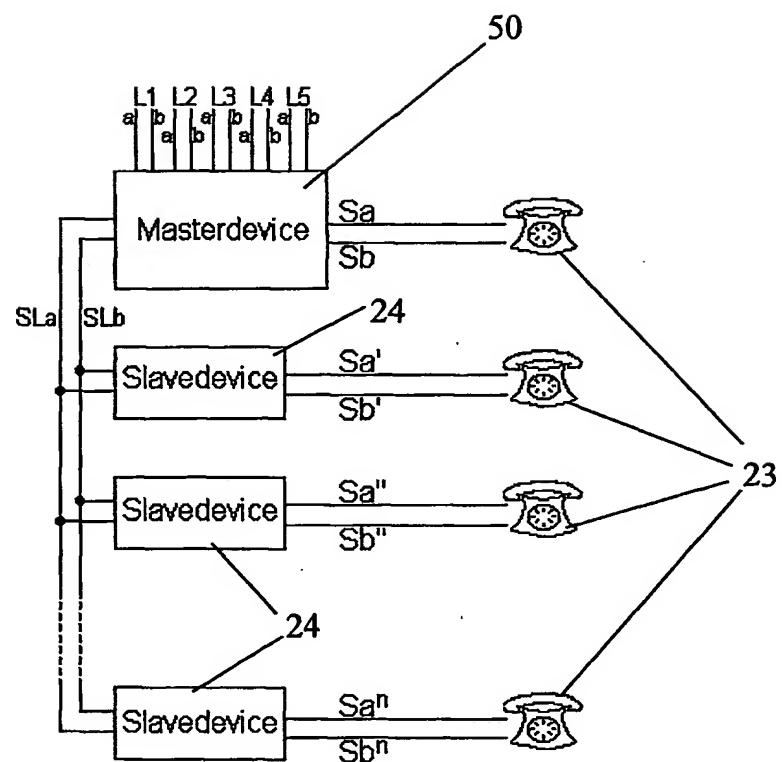


Fig. 5

4/5

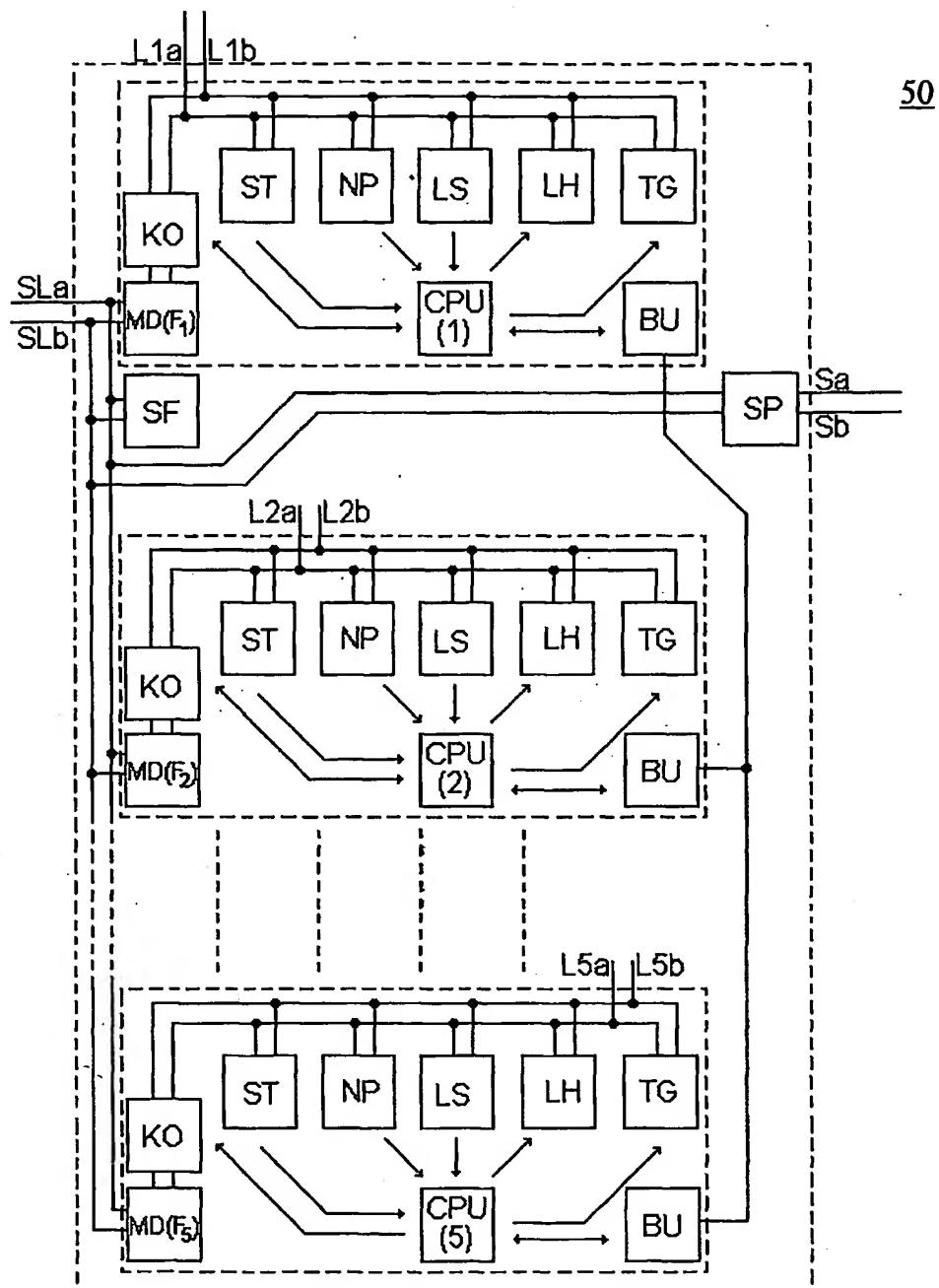


Fig. 6

5/5

60

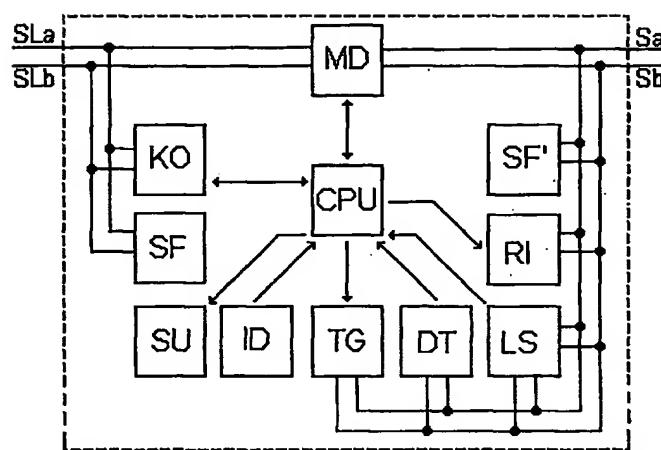


Fig. 7

## INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.

PCT/SE 01/00815

## A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

IPC7: H04M 1/723

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

## B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)

IPC7: H04M

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

SE, DK, FI, NO classes as above

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practicable, search terms used)

## C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
Y	US 5920615 A (NOLDE), 6 July 1999 (06.07.99), column 1, line 41 - column 7, line 48, figures 1-6	1-4
A	---	5-15
Y	US 3949172 A (BROWN, ET AL), 6 April 1976 (06.04.76), column 4, line 66 - column 5, line 59, figure 1, abstract	1-4
A	---	5-15
A	EP 0862311 A2 (LUCENT TECHNOLOGIES INC.), 2 Sept 1998 (02.09.98), column 3, line 19 - column 16, line 4, figures 1-19, abstract	1-15
	---	

 Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C. See patent family annex.

\* Special categories of cited documents:

"A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance

"E" earlier application or patent but published on or after the international filing date

"L" document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)

"O" document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means

"P" document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed

"T" later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention

"X" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone

"Y" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art

"&amp;" document member of the same patent family

Date of the actual completion of the international search

Date of mailing of the international search report

18 June 2001

19 -06- 2001

Name and mailing address of the ISA/  
Swedish Patent Office  
Box 5055, S-102 42 STOCKHOLM  
Facsimile No. +46 8 666 02 86Authorized officer  
Roland Landström/JAn  
Telephone No. +46 8 782 25 00

**INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT**  
Information on patent family members

28/05/01

International application No.

PCT/SE 01/00815

Patent document cited in search report	Publication date	Patent family member(s)	Publication date
US 5920615 A	06/07/99	AU 724213 B AU 7311296 A CA 2233294 A CN 1200217 A EP 0856221 A JP 11513854 T NO 981737 A NZ 320380 A WO 9715137 A	14/09/00 07/05/97 24/04/97 25/11/98 05/08/98 24/11/99 17/04/98 29/09/99 24/04/97
US 3949172 A	06/04/76	CA 1057436 A DE 2645087 A,C FR 2347835 A,B GB 1548652 A AU 509005 B AU 1248876 A	26/06/79 13/04/78 04/11/77 18/07/79 17/04/80 06/10/77
EP 0862311 A2	02/09/98	CA 2225687 A JP 10257195 A US 5883944 A	28/08/98 25/09/98 16/03/99